

Dealing with Death

Dealing with Death of a Brother in an Accidental

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

A young brother died in an auto accident this week. We have Janazah today.

It is devastating for the family. Community is shocked. We will try to seek guidance from Quran and Sunnah on this topic.

Baqarah 153-157

ط يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ (١٥٣) وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِمَنْ يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتٌ
بَلْ أحيَاءٌ وَلَكِنْ لَا تَشْعُرُونَ (١٥٤) وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالثَّمَرَاتِ
وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ (١٥٥) الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابَتْهُمُ مُصِيبَةٌ قَالُوا إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ (١٥٦) أُولَئِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ صَلَوَاتٌ مِّنْ
رَّبِّهِمْ وَرَحْمَةٌ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُهْتَدُونَ ١٥٧

O you who believe! Seek help in patience and As-Salât (the prayer). Truly! Allâh is with As-Sâbirun (the patient.) (153) And say not of those who are killed in the Way of Allâh, "They are dead." Nay, they are living, but you perceive (it) not. (154) And certainly, We shall test you with something of fear, hunger, loss of wealth, lives and fruits, but give glad tidings to As-Sâbirun (the patient) (155) Who, when afflicted with calamity, say: "Truly! To Allâh we belong and truly, to Him we shall return." (156) They are those on whom are the Salawât (i.e. who are blessed and will be forgiven) from their Lord, and (they are those who) receive His Mercy, and it is they who are the guided-ones. (157)

What is covered in these Verses

We will deal with each topic:

1. Sabr and Salah
2. Concept of Shaheed
3. Test from Allah
4. What to Say
5. The Promise of Reward

Sabr and Salah

Allah SWT is asking us for patience because He only knows the wisdom of what happens. Reminding us that daily prayer will help us be patient and steadfast.

إِنَّمَا يُوفَّى الصَّابِرُونَ أَجْرَهُمْ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ

Those who are patient shall receive their reward in full, without reckoning. (Zumar:10)

إِنَّكَ مَيِّتٌ وَإِنَّهُمْ مَيِّتُونَ (٣٠)

Verily, you (O Muhammad SAW) will die and verily, they (too) will die. (Zumar: 30)

No One Knows Where they will Die

وَمَا تَدْرِي نَفْسٌ مَّاذَا تَكْسِبُ غَدًا ۖ وَمَا تَدْرِي نَفْسٌ بِأَيِّ أَرْضٍ تَمُوتُ

No person knows what he will earn tomorrow, and no person knows in what land he will die. (Luqman:34)

أَيْنَ مَا تَكُونُوا يُدْرِكُكُمُ الْمَوْتُ وَلَوْ كُنْتُمْ فِي بُرُوجٍ مُّشِيدَةٍ

"Wheresoever you may be, death will overtake you even if you are in fortresses built up strong and high!"
(Nisa: 78)

كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ ثُمَّ إِلَيْنَا تُرْجَعُونَ

Everyone shall taste the death. Then unto Us you shall be returned. (Ankabut: 57)

Concept of Shaheed

According to Islamic Jurisprudence, "Shaheed" is of two kinds: • Shaheed in the real sense. • Shaheed in the constructive sense. Shaheed in the real sense is a Muslim who has been killed during "Jihad" or has been killed by any person unjustly. Such a person has two characteristics different from common people who die on their bed. Firstly, he should be buried without giving him a ritual bath. However, the prayer of the Janazah shall be offered on him and he shall also be given a proper kafn (burial shroud). Secondly, he will deserve a great reward in the Hereafter and it is hoped that Allah Almighty shall forgive his sins and admit him to Jannah. It is also stated in some of the traditions that the body of such a person remains in the grave protected from contamination or dissolution.

Shaheed in the Constructive Sense

The Holy Prophet Sall-Allahu alayhi wa sallam has included in this category of Shaheed a large number of persons such as a person who has died in an epidemic or who has died in an unexpected accident, like a fire or a traffic accident or who has been drowned in the water or a woman who has died during the delivery of her child etc.

Allama Jalaluddin Suyuti, a well-known scholar of Islamic disciplines, has collected all the Hadiths relating to this kind of Shaheed and has come to the conclusion that there are thirty categories mentioned by the Holy Prophet Sall-Allahu alayhi wa sallam who can deserve to be called Shaheed in this sense. But in the normal course, the word "Shaheed" is applied only for the first kind. However, it is not prohibited to use the word for a person who falls in any of the categories mentioned in the second kind.

Test from Allah SWT - Part of Life

وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالثَّمَرَاتِ وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ

And certainly, We shall test you with something of

fear,

hunger,

loss of wealth,

Lives,

and fruits,

but give glad tidings to As-Sâbirun (the patient) (155)

What to Say

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

"Truly! To Allâh we belong and truly, to Him we shall return."

We all know to say this. basically , we are leaving over matters to Allah SWT. We came from Him and to Him we return.

This can be said for any loss not just loss of life.

The Promise of Reward

أُولَئِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ صَلَوَاتٌ مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَرَحْمَةٌ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُهْتَدُونَ

They are those on whom are the Salawât (i.e. who are blessed and will be forgiven) from their Lord, and (they are those who) receive His Mercy, and it is they who are the guided-ones.

Guidance From the Prophet PBUH

Narrated by Abu Hurairah (RAA) that Prophet (PBUH) said, Allah Almighty says that My believing creature has paradise when I take a loving member of this family and he is patient. (Bukhari)

Narrated by Abu Hurairah (RAA) that Prophet (PBUH) said, The test from Allah continues to stay with the believing male and female in himself (herself), in his/her child and in his/her wealth till he/she meets Allah Almighty and has no sins. (Tirmidhi)

Guidance From the Prophet PBUH

Narrated by Abu Yahya Suhaib ibn Sinan (RAA) that Prophet (PBUH) said, It is a strange thing for a believer, everything is good for him and not to anyone else other than the believer; whenever good reaches him, he is thankful; hence he is rewarded; and whenever he is hit by a calamity, he is patient and steadfast; hence he is rewarded. (Muslim)

Narrated by Anas (RAA) that Prophet (PBUH) said, The level of reward depends upon the gravity of the test, and when Allah Almighty likes a group of people, He tests them; whoever accepts happily, it is to his credit that he will be rewarded; and whoever is disappointed and is unhappy, it is to his credit and he is to be punished. (Tirmidhi)

Guidance From the Prophet PBUH

Narrated by Abu Said and Abu Hurairah (RAA) that Prophet (PBUH) said, Whenever a Muslim is afflicted with fatigue, lasting illness, worry, sadness, harm, Sadness, harm, or distress, or even when he is pricked with a thorn, Allah will forgive his sins and mistakes. (Agreed Upon)

Narrated by Anas (RAA) that Prophet (PBUH) entered the room where his son, Ibrahim was dying, tears shed from his eyes. Abdur Rahman ibn Auf (RAA) asked him about it, He said, “Indeed, the eyes shed tears, the heart saddens, and we can’t say but to please our Lord, and we are sad for the the departure of you O’ Ibrahim. (Bukhari)

Texting While Driving

- The National Safety Council reports that cell phone use while driving leads to 1.6 million crashes each year.
- Nearly 390,000 injuries occur each year from accidents caused by texting while driving.
- 1 out of every 4 car accidents in the United States is caused by texting and driving.
- Texting while driving is 6x more likely to cause an accident than driving drunk.
- Answering a text takes away your attention for about five seconds. Traveling at 55 mph, that's enough time to travel the length of a football field.
- Texting while driving causes a 400 percent increase in time spent with eyes off the road.
- Of all cell phone related tasks, texting is by far the most dangerous activity.
- The NHTSA estimates that every day 660,000 drivers use electronic devices while behind the wheel.

Now if you died today:

Would your spouse know where everything related to your responsibility was ?

Would he/she know how to talk to the kids about topics?

Would he/she know how to contact people at your work?

Would he/she have access to your accounts or any financial information?

Would he/she know how many fasting or salah you needed to make up so he would have it done after your death?

Would he/she know who you owed so it would be paid?

Would he/she know where the paperwork was, whether will or power of attorney?

I think we plan for many useless things in life. We talk to our spouses about many things but the one thing we don't talk about is: What happened this week !!!

Please talk today like it's the last day and last opportunity

Duas - O Allah!

Forgive living and deceased, present and absent, young and old, males and females.

To whomsoever you give life, keep him faithful, and whomsoever you take in death, take as a believer.

Forgive the deceased brother and show him your mercy. You are the forgiving and merciful.